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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Order 2000-6-2

Served: June 7, 2000

Issued by the Department of Transportation  
on the 1st day of June, 2000

Agreement Among Member Carriers of the  
INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION  
concerning passenger services matters:

Docket OST-99-6694-19  
R-1 through R-11

ORDER

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has filed an agreement with the Department for approval and exemption from the U.S. antitrust laws under sections 41309 and 41308 of Title 49 of the United States Code. The agreement was adopted at the Twenty-first Passenger Services Conference held in Bangkok during October 12-14, 1999.<sup>1/</sup>

The agreement consists of resolutions and recommended practices (R.P.'s) affecting passenger services worldwide.<sup>2/</sup> Most of these changes amend existing provisions governing use of corporate client codes, assignment of location identifiers and ticket formats, as well as release, reassign and/or reallocate form codes for various types of travel and bank settlement plan documents. These proposals involve non-substantive changes, essentially of a technical, editorial or administrative nature, to existing approved resolutions and recommended practices, and appear to be in conformity with our substantive policies and concerns. As such, they raise no public interest issues, and will be approved.

Substantive Changes:

The agreement also: (1) adopts a new Resolution 706 management group to monitor and amend, as needed, various specifications and standards, set forth in new R.P. 1706c, relating to the operation of self service devices for passenger check-in and other functions which are sited at airports and other locations and which can be used by more than one carrier; and (2) adds the name

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<sup>1/</sup> IATA memorandum PSC/Reso/101, filed with the Department on December 21, 1999. IATA's Twenty First Passenger Services Conference was held in conjunction with the Twentieth Joint ATA/IATA Passenger Services Conference.

<sup>2/</sup> The individual resolutions and recommended practices, along with their subject matter, are listed in the attached appendix.

of the operating carrier to passenger flight coupons and boarding passes.

Section 41309 of the Code directs us to approve any agreement or modification of an agreement if we find that it will not substantially lessen competition, and is not adverse to the public interest or in violation of the Code. We find that the agreement in Docket OST-99-6694, as conditioned, is not adverse to the public interest, in violation of the Code, or likely to lessen competition substantially, and that it should be approved.

Furthermore, we conclude that the agreement should be granted immunity from the operation of the antitrust laws to the extent necessary to permit its implementation. In general, the agreement amends existing provisions already approved and immunized by the Department. Where new provisions are created, they perform administrative and facilitatory functions similar to other resolutions that have been approved and immunized. As a result, none raises immunity issues not previously considered, and the conferral of immunity upon them is consistent with our policy of conferring immunity on amendments coextensively with the underlying agreements.

Pursuant to the authority duly assigned under the Department's Regulations, 14 CFR 385.13:

We do not find that Resolutions R-1 through R-11 of the agreement in Docket OST-99-6694, as set forth in the attached Appendix, are adverse to the public interest, in violation of the Act, or likely to lessen competition substantially.

**ACCORDINGLY,**

1. We approve R-1 through R-11 of the agreement in Docket OST-99-6694, as listed in the attached Appendix, under 49 U.S.C. 41309; and

2. To the extent that R-1 through R-11 of the agreement in Docket OST-99-6694 are approved, we exempt any person affected by this order from the operation of the antitrust laws as provided in 49 U.S.C. 41308.

Persons entitled to petition the Department for review of this order, under 14 CFR 385.50, may file such petitions within ten days after the date of service of this order.

This order shall be effective and become the action of the Department of Transportation upon expiration of the above period, unless within such period a petition for review is filed or the Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs gives notice that he will review this order on his own motion.

By:

Paul L. Gretch  
Director, Office of International Aviation

<b>Docket</b> <b>OST-99-6694</b>	<b>IATA</b> <b>Designation</b>	<b>IATA Resolution Title</b>	<b>Expiry</b> <b>Date</b>
R-1	PSC(21)001br	Clarification of the "Tax" Box on Tickets (New)	6/1/2000
R-2	PSC(21)706	Common Use Self Service (CUSS) Management Group (New)	Indefinite
R-3	PSC(21)722c	Automated Ticket/Boarding Pass-Version 2 (ATB2) (Amending)	Indefinite
R-4	PSC(21)722c	Automated Ticket/Boarding Pass-Version 2 (ATB2) (Amending)	Indefinite
R-5	PSC(21)722d	Off Premise Automated Ticket/ Boarding Pass-Version 2 (OPATB2) (Amending)	Indefinite
R-6	PSC(21)740	Form of Interline Baggage Tag (Amending)	Indefinite
R-7	PSC(21)763	Location Identifiers (Amending)	Indefinite
R-8	PSC(21)1706c	Common Use Self Service (CUSS) (New)	
R-9	PSC(21)1720a	Standard Thirteen-Digit Numbering System for Traffic Documents (Amending)	
R-10	PSC(21)1720a	Standard Thirteen-Digit Numbering System for Traffic Documents (Amending)	
R-11	PSC(21)1778	Corporate Client Identification Service (Amending)	